

ADMINISTRATIVE
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13 MAY 1968

DD/S&T# 1953-68

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Science and Technology

SUBJECT : Occupational Deferment

adme 12.7

1. A copy of a letter from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Chairman of the Civil Service Commission on the subject of occupational deferments, dated 17 April 1968, is attached for your information and guidance. Informal contact with the Civil Service Commission revealed that the Chairman has about decided against the issuance of a commission directive but will, instead, recommend that Federal Agencies follow the guides of a new Department of Defense Directive on the subject which is expected to be published in the near future.

2. I anticipate publication of a revised OPM on the subject when a decision is reached by the Civil Service Commission. In the meantime, if any of your offices have critical skill cases which you think will stand up to the Director's criterion, each such case should be justified to him by memorandum with concurrence lines for the Director of Personnel, the Deputy Director for Support, and the Executive Director-Comptroller. I will request local boards to grant deferments for those cases approved by the Director.

FOIAb3a

Robert S. Wattles
Director of Personnel

Att

cc: Director, FMSAC
Director, OCS
Director, ORD
Director, OSA
Director, OSI
Director, OSP

1-Xerox-CY- Director, OEL

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

17 April 1968

Honorable John W. Macy, Jr.
Chairman
U. S. Civil Service Commission
Washington, D. C. 20415

Dear John:

This is in response to your letter of April 9, 1968, proposing a uniform policy for Government agencies with respect to requests for the occupational deferment of their employees. CIA has always been very conservative on draft matters. Deferments have been requested or appeals entered only when they were believed to be in the national interest. With the announcement of the National Security Council policy and subsequent action by the Director of the Selective Service System, we re-examined our procedures and criteria to ensure that we would request a deferment or enter an appeal only in cases involving most highly skilled individuals vital to particular Agency activities.

I agree in principle with the proposed policy but suggest that it be modified to permit an agency head to request deferments on an individual case basis when he believes that the need is so critical that deferment is in the national interest.

Sincerely,

/s/ Richard Helms

Richard Helms
Director